

## State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: IMMEDIATE Contact: Amanda Wherry/Jacqueline Kannan

Date: September 10, 2001 Phone: (919) 733-5612

## EASLEY APPOINTS MEMBERS TO AGRICULTURE HALL OF FAME BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley appointed **Durwood Bateman** of Raleigh and former commissioner **James A. Graham** of Raleigh to serve on the North Carolina Agriculture Hall of Fame Board of Directors.

Bateman is the associate dean of the School of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the director of the North Carolina Agricultural Research Service at North Carolina State University. He has worked at N.C. State since 1979. Bateman has been a member of the American Phytopathological Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the North Carolina Board of Agriculture and Farm Organizations. He received his bachelor's degree from N.C. State in 1956, his master's from Cornell University in 1958 and his doctorate in plant pathology from Cornell University in 1960.

Graham was the commissioner for the North Carolina Department of Agriculture from 1964 to 2000. He was president of the Southern United States Trade Association, president of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture and president of the National Association of Market Managers. Graham has served on the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce and the Raleigh Rescue Mission. Graham received his bachelor's degree in agriculture from N.C. State University in 1942.

The North Carolina Agriculture Hall of Fame Board of Directors selects new members to the Agriculture Hall of Fame and sets the rules and regulations governing acceptance and admission of the candidates. The board reviews each nominee and their achievements in agriculture before they are selected. The board has eight members and the Governor appoints three members. Each member serves a six-year term.

###